

Bell Atlantic
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Suite 400 West
Washington, DC 20005

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

June 9, 1999

RECEIVED



Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary

JUN 9 1999

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**Re: Request for Limited Modification of LATA Boundaries to Provide ELCS
Between Bell Atlantic - Virginia's Lebanon Exchange and GTE South's Richlands
Exchange; CC Docket No. 96-159**

Dear Ms. Salas:

Bell Atlantic - Virginia hereby submits this request for a LATA boundary modification to provide Expanded Local Calling Service (ELCS) between its Lebanon exchange and GTE South's Richlands exchange.

In its order released July 15, 1997¹ ("Order"), the Commission established an ongoing process for requesting LATA boundary modifications to provide ELCS. This request is filed pursuant to the provisions contained in that order. Attached, please find the support documentation required by the Commission to approve the requested modification.

Should you have any questions regarding this material, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-336-7875.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tracy K. Chaney".

Attachment

cc: A. Gomez
K. Schroeder
A. Thomas

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List A B C D E

¹ "In the Matter of Petitions for Limited Modification of LATA Boundaries to Provide Expanded Local Calling Service (ELCS) at Various Locations", CC Docket No. 96-159, released July 15, 1997.

**Request for Limited Modification of LATA Boundaries to Provide ELCS Between
Bell Atlantic - Virginia's Lebanon Exchange and GTE South's Richlands Exchange**

- (1) Type of Service
Traditional Local Service, Non Optional ELCS
- (2) Direction of Service
Two-way
- (3) Exchanges Involved
ELCS between Bell Atlantic - Virginia's Lebanon exchange located in the Roanoke, Virginia LATA and the GTE South's Richlands exchange located in the Bluefield, West Virginia Independent Market Area ("IMA").
- (4) Name of Carriers
Lebanon - Bell Atlantic - Virginia
Richlands - GTE South
- (5) State Commission Approval
The Virginia State Corporation Commission issued a Final Order on May 20, 1999 approving ELCS for this route. A copy of the Final Order is attached.
- (6) Number of Network Access Lines
Lebanon Exchange - 8,116
Richlands Exchange - 9,429
- (7) Usage Data
Messages per main station per month
Lebanon to Richlands - 1.24
Richlands to Lebanon - 1.36

Percent of subscribers making calls
Lebanon to Richlands - Data not available
Richlands to Lebanon - Data not available
- (8) Poll Results
Lebanon to Richlands
Fifty seven percent of those responding voted for ELCS.
Richlands to Lebanon
Public notice was provided to the Richlands exchange customers via newspaper display advertisement. No comments or requests for a hearing were received.

(8) Poll Results (Continued)

ELCS Rate Increase - Lebanon (Continued)

Residential

Flat Rate	\$ 1.02
Message Rate	\$ 0.05
Measured Rate	\$ 0.00
Economy Rate	\$ 0.00

Business

Flat Rate Line	\$ 7.05
Message Rate Line	(\$ 0.50)
Measured Rate Line	\$ 0.00
Flat PBX Trunk	\$12.71
Message PBX Trunk	(\$ 0.50)
Measured PBX Trunk	\$ 0.00

ELCS Rate Increase - Richlands

Residential

Flat Rate	\$ 0.36
Lifeline Service	\$ 0.36
Exchange Only Svc.	\$ 0.26
Economy Measured	\$ 0.22

Business

Flat Rate	\$ 0.83
Flat Key Line Service	\$ 0.83
Flat Rate Trunk	\$ 1.86
Measured Single Line	\$ 0.57
Measured Key Line	\$ 0.57
Measured Trunk	\$ 0.57

(9) Community of Interest Statement

Lebanon is a rural exchange with approximately 8,100 access lines located in Russell County in southwest Virginia. The Richlands exchange, which is adjacent to Lebanon, is located in Tazewell County. The Richlands exchange has approximately 9,400 access lines. Community of interest issues include education, commercial, retail, transportation and personal. The Southwest Virginia Community College located on the western border of Tazewell County draws students from both Russell and Tazewell Counties. Lebanon and Richlands are adjacent exchanges and many subscribers live in one exchange and work in another. For example, Reynolds Metals and Lear Manufacturing Corporation located in the Lebanon exchange employ subscribers in both exchanges. Richlands Mall located in the Town of Richlands serves subscribers in both exchanges. The Kents Ridge airport located in Richlands serves both the Richlands and Lebanon exchanges. Community of interest is also personal with friends and relatives living in the two adjacent exchanges. Both exchanges have hospitals but only the Richlands hospital has a birthing facility. The data outlined above, the results of the Lebanon customer survey and the results from the Richlands public notice support community of interest between these two exchanges.

(10) Maps

Maps are attached for the Lebanon and Richlands exchanges.

(11) Other Pertinent Information

Chronology

On February 12, 1998, Bell Atlantic - Virginia's Lebanon exchange subscribers petitioned the Virginia State Corporation Commission for Extended Local Calling Service (ELCS) to GTE South's Richlands exchange. The Commission directed Bell Atlantic - Virginia to determine the change in monthly rates to provide ELCS from Lebanon to Richlands. Bell Atlantic - Virginia surveyed all of its Lebanon subscribers regarding their willingness to pay the additional rates. Fifty seven percent of the subscribers responding voted favorably.

The Commission then directed GTE South to determine rates for ELCS calling from Richlands to Lebanon. GTE South provided public notice via newspaper display advertising to its Richlands customers. No comments or requests for a hearing were received.

Chronology (Continued)

Both the survey and the public notice met the requirements as outlined in Section 56-484.2 of the Virginia State Code. The results of the survey met State Code requirements for implementation.

On May 20, 1999, the Virginia State Corporation Commission issued a Final Order approving Extended Local Calling Service between Lebanon and Richlands.

Virginia State Code, Section 56-484.2

This section of the Virginia State Code allows customers to petition the State Corporation Commission for ELCS. A copy of this section is attached.

Attachments

Virginia State Corporation Commission Public Notice Report of Alan R. Wickham in Case No. PUC990004

Virginia State Corporation Commission Final Order in Case No. PUC990004

Map of the Lebanon exchange

Map of the Richlands exchange

Virginia LATA map

Virginia State Code, Section 56-484.2

Lebanon to Richlands

ELCS

990510007

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**PUBLIC NOTICE REPORT OF
ALAN R. WICKHAM**

PUC990004

**APPLICATION OF GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED
TO IMPLEMENT EXTENDED LOCAL SERVICE
FROM ITS RICHLANDS EXCHANGE TO
BELL ATLANTIC - VIRGINIA INC.'S LEBANON EXCHANGE**

April 30, 1999

1999 APR 30 P 4:30

DOCUMENT CONTROL

**APPLICATION OF GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED
TO IMPLEMENT EXTENDED LOCAL SERVICE
FROM ITS RICHLANDS EXCHANGE TO
BELL ATLANTIC - VIRGINIA INC.'S LEBANON EXCHANGE**

CASE NO. PUC990004

BACKGROUND

Bell Atlantic – Virginia (“BA-VA”) surveyed its Lebanon exchange customers for Extended Local Service (“ELS”) into GTE South Incorporated's ("GTE") Richlands exchange in response to a customer petition filed pursuant to Virginia Code Section 56-484.2. ELS is flat rate two-way calling between two or more exchanges on a seven digit dialing basis. The result of the poll was as follows:

Total Ballots Mailed	6,068
Customers Responding	2,460 (40.5%)
Number of Responses:	
Yes	1,401 (57.0%)
No	1,059 (43.0%)

The proposal for ELS from the Lebanon exchange into the Richlands exchange met the polling requirements of § 56-484.2.

On January 7, 1999, GTE filed an application pursuant to provisions of § 56-484.2 proposing to notify its customers in the Richlands exchange of the increases in monthly rates that would be necessary for extending their local service to include the Lebanon exchange.

The Commission entered an Order Prescribing Notice of the application on February 4, 1999. The Company was ordered to publish notice in newspapers of general circulation in Richlands. A poll was not required because the proposed rate increase for one-party residential customers does not exceed five percent of the existing one-party

monthly rate. Affected telephone customers were given until April 12, 1999, to file comments or request a hearing on the proposal.

On April 8, 1999, GTE filed proof of notice as required by the Commission's Order of February 4, 1999. Notice was published twice as display advertising in the Richlands News - Press and the Richlands Tazewell Free Press. No comments or requests for a hearing were received.

PROPOSED RATE INCREASES

Under this proposal, general monthly rates in the Richlands exchange would increase as follows: flat rate residential service, \$0.36; residential Virginia Universal Service Plan service, \$0.36; residential measured exchange only service, \$0.26; residential measured economy message service, \$0.22; flat business rate service, \$0.83; business key line service, \$0.83; business flat rate trunk service, \$1.86; and business measured service: single line service, \$0.57; key line service, \$0.57; trunk service, \$0.57; and customer owned coin, \$0.38.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of GTE's application to implement ELS from its Richlands exchange to BA-VA's Lebanon exchange is recommended.

AT RICHMOND, MAY 20, 1999

APPLICATION OF 20 P 2 21
1999 MAY 20

GTE SOUTH INCORPORATED

CASE NO. PUC990004

To implement extended local
service from its Richlands exchange
to Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc.'s
Lebanon exchange

FINAL ORDER

On January 7, 1999, GTE South Incorporated ("GTE" or "the Company") filed an application with the State Corporation Commission ("Commission") pursuant to the provisions of § 56-484.2 of the Code of Virginia. GTE proposed to notify its Richlands exchange customers of the increases in monthly rates that would be necessary to extend their local service to include the Lebanon exchange of Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc. ("BA-VA"). Customers in the Lebanon exchange previously had petitioned the Commission for local calling to Richlands. In a poll conducted in response to the petition, the majority of Lebanon customers responding to the poll supported paying higher rates for local calling to Richlands. A poll of Richlands subscribers in response to this application was not required under § 56-484.2(A) of the Code of Virginia because the proposed rate increase does not exceed 5% of the existing monthly one-party residential rate.

By order dated February 4, 1999, the Commission directed GTE to publish notice of the proposed increase. Affected telephone customers were given until April 12, 1999, to file comments or to request a hearing on the proposal. No comments or requests for hearing were received. On April 8, 1999, GTE filed proof of notice as required by the Commission's Order of February 4, 1999.

On April 30, 1999, the Commission's Staff submitted its report regarding the Company's application. The Staff recommended that GTE's application to implement extended local service from its Richlands exchange to BA-VA's Lebanon exchange be approved. Accordingly,

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

(1) The proposed extension of local service from GTE's Richlands exchange to BA-VA's Lebanon exchange shall be implemented.

(2) The two companies shall file the tariff revisions necessary for the proposed extension of local service.

(3) Since there is nothing further to come before the Commission, this docket is closed and the papers filed herein shall be placed in the file for ended causes.

AN ATTESTED COPY hereof shall be sent by the Clerk of the Commission to: Stephen C. Spencer, GTE Service Corp., Three James Center, Suite 1200, 1051 East Cary Street, Richmond,

DOCUMENT OFF-LINE

This page has been substituted for one of the following:

- o An oversize page or document (such as a map) which was too large to be scanned into the ECFS system.

- o Microfilm, microform, certain photographs or videotape.

- o Other materials which, for one reason or another, could not be scanned into the ECFS system.

The actual document, page(s) or materials may be reviewed by contacting an Information Technician. Please note the applicable docket or rulemaking number, document type and any other relevant information about the document in order to ensure speedy retrieval by the Information Technician.

3 MAPS

ARTICLE 4.

Extension and Reduction of Telephone Service

§ 56-484.2. Extension or reduction upon poll of certain subscribers.

— A. Upon petition of five percent but in no case less than twenty-five of the subscribers in an established telephone exchange for an extension or reduction of their local service area to include or exclude a contiguous local exchange or exchanges, or upon resolution of the governing body of a county for a countywide local service area, the Commission shall estimate the approximate change in the monthly rate for service which will result from such extension or reduction. In the case of a governing body resolution for countywide calling, the Commission, prior to estimating the approximate rate change, shall determine which exchanges within the county have a community of interest calling percentage that is fifty percent or greater in at least one direction to at least one other exchange within the county. The Commission shall then undertake to estimate the approximate change in the monthly rate for service that will result from such expanded local calling area for each such exchange. The Commission shall order the affected company or companies to poll those subscribers whose monthly rate for service would change if the proposed changes were adopted. However, polls shall not be required in the exchange or exchanges to which the petitioners desire an extension of local service if (i) any resulting rate increases in any twelve-month period do not, in the aggregate, exceed five percent of the existing monthly one-party residential flat rate service for the affected exchange to which the petitioners desire an extension of local service or (ii) any resulting rate increases in any twelve-month period, in the aggregate, exceed five percent solely due to rate regrouping. No more than one petition for a poll from the same group of subscribers or resolution from the governing body of a county shall be considered by the Commission during any three-year period. For purposes of determining the exchanges that will be polled pursuant to this subsection, *"community of interest calling percentage"* means the percentage of customers in an exchange that make one or more calls per month to another exchange within the county.

B. If a poll is required pursuant to subsection A and a majority of the subscribers are in favor of the proposed change, or if the Commission determines that a majority of subscribers voting are in favor of the proposed change, the Commission shall order the extension or reduction of their local service area. For the purposes of this section, the number of subscribers in an established telephone exchange shall be deemed to be the number of subscribers in an exchange as of January 1 of the calendar year when the petition is submitted to the Commission. Ballots polling subscribers on a proposed change in local service area shall be counted sixty days after being mailed and the results certified to the Commission.

C. If a poll is not required pursuant to subsection A, the Commission shall require notice to customers in exchanges in which polls are not required and shall convene a hearing on the proposed extension or reduction of the local calling area if the lesser of five percent or 150 of the customers within such exchanges request a hearing. The Commission may convene a hearing under this subsection on its own motion without regard to the number of customers who request a hearing.

D. Where the governing body of a county passes a resolution for a countywide local service area under subsection A and the poll for such service is defeated, the governing body shall reimburse the affected company or companies for the costs of the poll.

E. The Commission shall give the highest priority to petitions or resolutions presented under subsection A that involve exchanges in rural areas. (1976, c. 265; 1978, c. 232; 1985, c. 382; 1990, c. 339; 1993, c. 974; 1994, cc. 180, 347; 1995, c. 466.)

The 1994 amendments. — The 1994 amendment by c. 180, deleted the former next-to-last sentence in subsection A, which provided: "If subscriber polls are not required, the Commission shall proceed pursuant to the provisions of § 56-237.2"; and added subsection C.

1994 amendment by c. 347, in the first sentence of subsection B, deleted "that more than fifty percent of the subscribers have voted in the pool and" following "determines," and substituted "subscribers" for "those."

The 1995 amendment, in subsection A, inserted "or upon resolution of the governing body of a county for a countywide local service area" in the first sentence; added the present second and third sentences; inserted "or resolution from the governing body of a county" in the present sixth sentence, and added the seventh sentence; and added subsections D and E.

Virginia 23219; Richard D. Gary, Esquire, Hunton & Williams,
Riverfront Plaza, East Tower, 951 East Byrd Street, Richmond,
Virginia 23219-4074; Warner F. Brundage, Jr., Esquire, Bell
Atlantic-Virginia, Inc., 600 East Main Street, 11th Floor,
Richmond, Virginia 23219; Division of Consumer Counsel, Office
of the Attorney General, 900 East Main Street, Richmond,
Virginia 23219; the Commission's Office of General Counsel; and
the Commission's Division of Communications.

A True Copy
Tested:

Joel H. Beck
Clerk of the
State Corporation Commission